ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Taking the assessment of potential impacts into account, herewith please receive an environmental impact statement that summarises the impact that the prospecting activity may have on the environment after the management and mitigation of impacts have been considered, with specific reference to types of impact, duration of impacts, likelihood of potential impacts occurring and the significance of impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

TYPE OF IMPACT	DURATION	LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
 Site Establishment & Infrastructure Development Loss of grazing for duration of mining. Visual intrusion because of site establishment. Impact on vegetation structure and plant species composition. Impact on protected plant species within mining footprint. Potential change of natural runoff and drainage patterns. Additional job opportunities because of the mining operation (Positive Impact) 	Duration of site establishment phase (±2-3 months)	Definite Possible Definite Low Possibility Low Possibility Definite	Medium Concern Low-Medium Concern Low-Medium Concern Low Concern Low Concern High (+)
Stripping and Stockpiling of Topsoil and/or Overburden		LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
 Visual intrusion caused by mining activities. Loss of stockpiled topsoil during mining and stockpiling. Dust nuisance because of the disturbance of soil. Noise nuisance generated by earthmoving machinery. Infestation of the topsoil heaps and mining area with weeds or invader plant species. Potential increase in runoff from bare areas and associated accelerated erosion. Potential contamination of footprint area and surface runoff because of hydrocarbon spillages/bad waste management practices. 	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	Possible Low Possibility Possible Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern

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Drilling and Blasting		LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
Health and safety risk posed by blasting activities.	Duration of operational phase	Low Possibility	Low Concern
 Dust nuisance caused by blasting activities. Noise nuisance because of blasting. 	(Maximum 5 years)	Low Possibility Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern Low Concern
Excavation, Loading and Hauling to the Processing Plant		LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
Visual intrusion associated with the excavation activities.	Duration of operational phase	Possible	Low-Medium Concern
 Dust nuisance due to excavation and from loading and vehicles transporting the material. 	(Maximum 5 years)	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Noise nuisance because of the mining activities.		Low Possibility	Low Concern
 Unsafe working environment for employees. Soil contamination from hydrocarbon spills and/or littering. 		Low Possibility Low Possibility	Low Concern Low Concern
Facilitation of erosion due to mining activities.		Low Possibility	Low Concern
Crushing, Washing, Stockpiling and Transporting of Material		LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
Dust nuisance generated at the processing plant.	Duration of operational phase	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Noise nuisance stemming from operation of the processing plant.	(Maximum 5 years)	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Potential contamination of environment due to improper waste management.		Low Possibility	Low Concern
Infestation of the area with invader plant species.		Low Possibility Low Possibility	Low Concern Low Concern
 Potential increase in runoff from bare areas and associated accelerated erosion. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
 Loss of stockpiled material due to ineffective stormwater control. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
 Increased fire risk due to mining activities. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

Cumulative Impacts		LIKELIHOOD	SIGNIFICANCE
Direct physical loss or modification of the watercourses and/or wetland should the buffer zone not be maintained	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Cumulative dust nuisance when quarry is operational and construction of the MNWP WEF commences.		Possible	Low-Medium Concern
 Cumulative noise nuisance when quarry and construction of the MNWP WEF occur simultaneously. 		Possible	Low-Medium Concern
Cumulative visual impact when quarry and MNWP WEF is developed.		Definite	Medium Concern
 Cumulative impact on overall species and ecosystem diversity. 		Possible	Low Concern
Cumulative impact of invader plants in both the quarry and MNWP WEF footprints.		Possible	Low-Medium Concern
Cumulative impact on job opportunities when quarry and MNWP WEF is in construction.		Definite	High (+)
Sloping and Landscaping During Rehabilitation		LIKELIHOOD	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
Safety risk posed by un-sloped areas.	Duration of	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Erosion of returned topsoil after rehabilitation.	decommissioning phase (±3 months)	Low Possibility	Low Concern
Infestation of the reinstated areas by weeds and invader plant species.		Low Possibility	Low Concern
Potential impact associated with litter/waste left at the mining area.		Low Possibility	Low Concern
 Use of the excavation as spoil site for natural materials (Positive Impact) 		Definite	Medium-High (+)